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NSC BRIEFING

24 September 1953

INDONESIA

I. Atjeh revolt in north Sumatra highlights  
deterioration in Indonesia

A. Government increasingly amenable to  
Communist influence.

II. Government claims rebellion ended

A. But other sources say Atjehnese now  
control all north Sumatra.

B. Defense minister admits there are  
10,000 rebels.

C. Before revolt there were 2,500 In-  
donesian troops in Atjeh.

~~D. Government can probably prevent  
creation of an Atjeh state.~~

E. But guerrilla warfare is in prospect  
for an indefinite period.

III. Atjehnese are Moslems and reports say they  
are getting aid from the Moslem insurgents  
in Java, The Darul Islam.

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- A. Darul Islam recently stepped up its activity.
- B. Believed Darul Islam has linked with rebels in Borneo and the Celebes.
- C. One report says the government fears Darul Islam will try to seize Djakarta.
- D. Djakarta garrison has been weakened by dispatch of several companies to Atjeh.

IV. These developments in part result from the government's recent policies

- A. It has vowed to destroy Darul Islam.
- B. It has tried to arm pro-Communists to fight Darul Islam.
- C. Anti-Communists in the various ministries are being replaced by leftists.
- D. Anti-government press and radio material being restricted or banned.
- E. The chairman of the chief opposition

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party, the Masjumi has been intimidated for an anti-Communist speech.

E. To discredit the Masjumi it has been indirectly accused of supporting the Atjehnese.

V. ~~On top level policy, however, the government has not taken steps which Masjumi could use to develop strong parliamentary opposition.~~

VI. ~~The government's trend to left is likely to strengthen Masjumi proponents of forceful action.~~ *moving* *Commis* *moving right!* *Ali* *They were*

A. They feel their only choice is violence or gradual loss of influence.

B. Full-scale civil war unlikely at this time.

C. But its prospect will increase as Masjumi sees itself more and more weakened by government's policies.